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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST



Mount Pisgah from Pisgah Inn.

F 443170

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • FOREST SERVICE

PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST lies in the western part of North Carolina near the southern end of the Appalachian Mountains, and it extends over an area roughly 100 miles long and 40 miles wide. About 478,000 acres are in Government ownership. Like other national forests, the Pisgah is managed for the protection of watersheds, the growing of timber, and the development of all other resources, with due consideration for the relative value of each. Recreation is one of the important activities in this national forest.

Watershed protection was a primary objective in the establishment of national forests in the southern Appalachians, because water is a major resource. The forest cover and soil on the mountain slopes must be maintained and protected so that the watersheds can absorb rainfall and thereby hold back potential flood water, and feed clear, pure water gradually into streams for domestic, municipal, and industrial use. Major rivers such as the Tennessee, Catawba, and Pee Dee, and many lesser streams, rise in the mountains of the Pisgah. Six local communities—Hendersonville, Brevard, Hot Springs, Weaverville, Old Fort, and Marion—obtain their water directly from streams of the national forest.

The Pisgah's extensive stands of timber are contributing heavily and increasingly to the Nation's supply of forest products. Forest and timber types range from oaks and yellow pines of the Piedmont up through the typical mountain forest of yellow-poplar, white pine, and hemlock, to the spruce and fir of the mountain tops. The principal forest products are sawlogs for lumber, pulpwood for paper, dogwood cuts for shuttle blocks, and veneer logs.

Lands now in Government ownership on the forest had largely been logged over prior to purchase, and many areas had been severely burned. The immediate task is to build up the timber resources of these depleted lands. Present annual cut is approximately 18 million board-feet. All timber is harvested under Government supervision and managed so that the yield will be sustained permanently. Under this system, the forest contributes its share to the welfare and economic stability of nearby communities. Cutting and logging are done with due regard to protection of slopes from quick surface runoff and erosion, and protection of scenic and recreational values.

Income from the forest's timber sales and other uses is paid into the United States Treasury. Twenty-five percent of the receipts are turned over to the State to be returned to the counties in which the national forest is located, to be used for roads and schools.

The many recreational opportunities and fine summer climate bring thousands of visitors annually.

Two main ranges, several lesser ranges, and twenty 6,000-foot peaks combine to exhibit mountain scenery unusual in eastern North America. Mount Mitchell at 6,684 feet is the highest point east of the Mississippi River. The varied forest cover includes the famous flowering rhododendrons, laurels, and azaleas. There is a profusion of color throughout the season, from the pink of the redbud in early April to the flaming colors of leaves in late October. Many clear, cold mountain streams, with numerous cascades and falls add to the beauty of the forest.

The area is accessible through a network of roads and some 600 miles of trail, including part of the famous Appalachian Trail. The Blue Ridge Parkway follows the crest of the Blue Ridge range through highly scenic parts of the forest. Twenty-four public recreation areas have been developed, and the necessary sanitary facilities, fire grates, safe water, tables, and rain shelters are provided. Camping, swimming, and other facilities are available at these locations (see list on map side).

Linville Gorge Wild Area encompasses a beautiful, rugged mountain gorge, accessible only by trail or cross-country travel. This is the only classified wild area east of the Mississippi.

Fishing is comparatively good, and the yearly managed hunts for deer, bear, and smaller game draw large numbers of sportsmen. There are 7 wildlife management areas, totaling 262,000 acres, administered cooperatively with the State. On these a carefully planned restocking and habitat rehabilitation program is being carried out, and hunting and fishing are permitted, under restrictions, to maintain the supply of game. Other parts of the forest not in the intensive management and demonstration areas are also open to hunting and fishing. State game and fish laws apply to all national-forest areas. Information regarding managed hunts, open seasons, bag limits, etc., can be obtained directly from the Forest Supervisor or State game officials.

Public Enemy No. 1 of all forest values is fire. Nine out of ten such fires are caused by man. Smokers' fires, campfires, hunters' warming fires, brush-burning fires—these head the list. The foresters of the Pisgah ask your help in preventing fires and in protecting your forest heritage. They will be glad to help you use and enjoy this forest. Get acquainted with them; they are good men to know. You will find the Forest Supervisor in the Pioneer Building, 42 North French Broad Street, Asheville, N. C. District Rangers are stationed at Lenoir, Marion, Burnsville, Pisgah Forest (near Brevard), and Hot Springs.



Alpine gardens atop Roan Mountain.



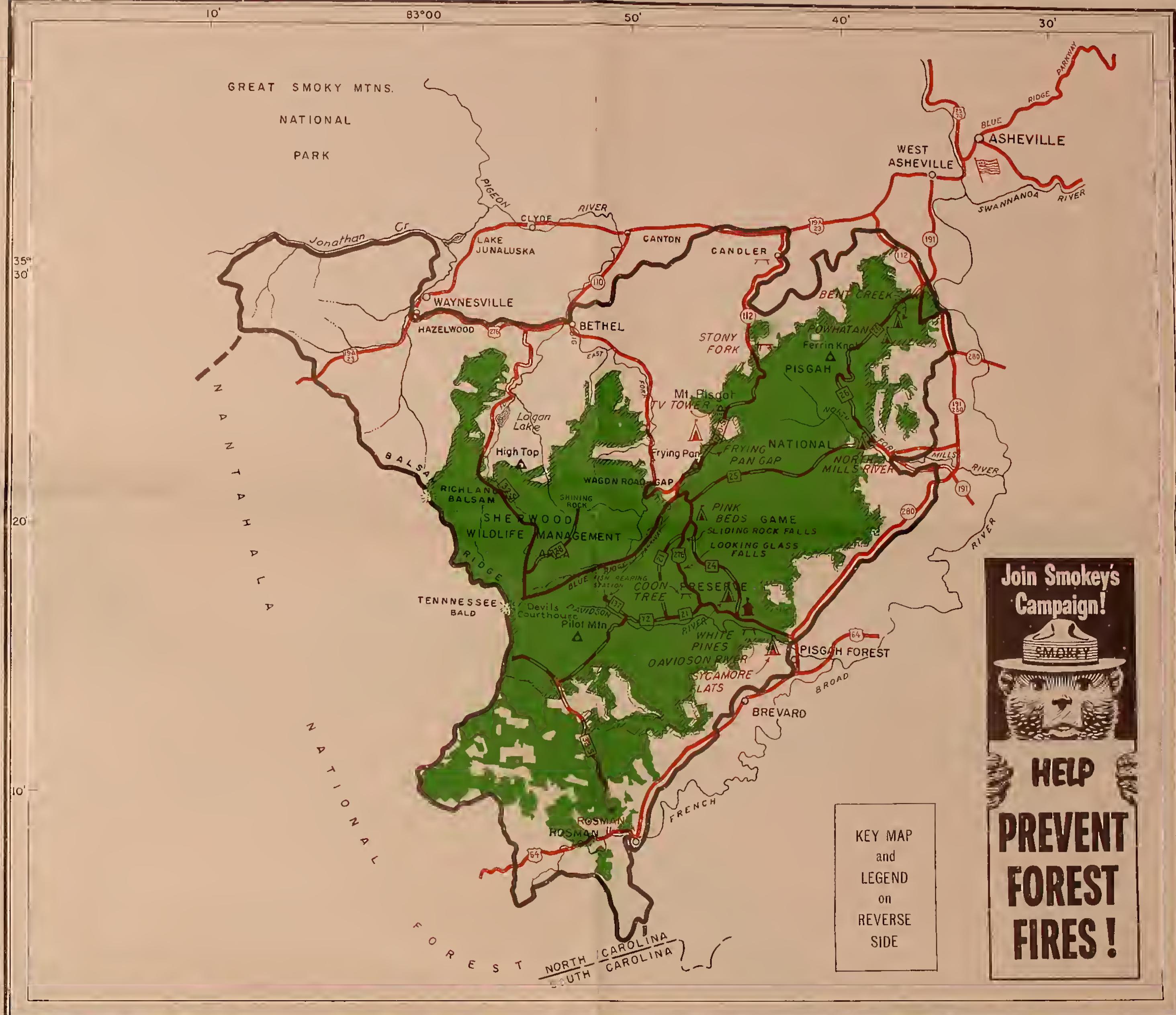
Recreation areas are provided for healthful outdoor activities.



F-453187
Clear streams and lakes provide good fishing for the sportsmen.



Forestry is balanced with agriculture in the highlands.



F-45314
Young yellow-poplar stands are common in the valleys.

YOUR FORESTS ARE
WORTH PROTECTING



A sustained timber crop provides lumber for many uses.



Boy Scout Camp at John Rock, Pisgah District.



Boy Scout Camp at John Rock, Pisgah District.

F-465147



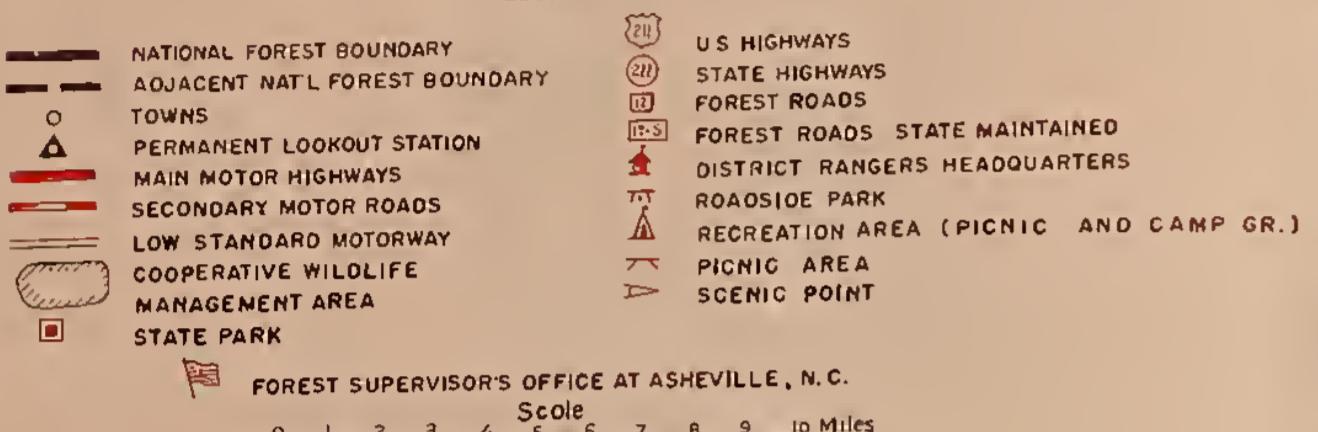
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST NORTH CAROLINA

1956

LEGEND



Scenic Point

Scale 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Miles

NATIONAL FOREST LAND



Mature trees are selected for cutting.

PUBLIC RECREATION AREAS

Bent Creek.—Off N. C. 191, 12 miles from Asheville. Picnicking and limited camping. Usually crowded on evenings and weekends.

Powhatan.—On road above Bent Creek. Picnicking, camping, and hiking.

Stony Fork.—On Mount Pisgah Road, 18 miles from Asheville. Picnicking.

Frying Pan Gap.—Beyond Mount Pisgah, 26 miles from Asheville. Over one mile above sea level, with very cool nights. Picnicking, camping, and hiking.

Pink Beds.—On U. S. 276, 18 miles from Brevard. Picnicking, camping, trailer space.

White Pines.—Off U. S. 276, 6 miles from Brevard. Picnicking, camping, and limited trailer space. Swimming half mile away at Davidson River.

Davison River.—Off U. S. 276, 5 miles from Brevard. Picnicking, swimming.

Screamer Flats.—On U. S. 276, 4 miles from Brevard. Picnicking, camping, and wading.

Coon Tree.—Off U. S. 276, 9 miles from Brevard. Picnicking.

Sliding Rock Falls.—On U. S. 276, 12 miles from Brevard. Picnicking and bathing.

North Mills River.—Off N. C. 191, 22 miles from Asheville. Picnicking, camping, and swimming. Individual camp and trailer lots.

Big Ivy.—Off N. C. 197, 26 miles from Asheville. Picnicking, camping, and swimming. Located in a grove of big timber.

Silvermine.—Off U. S. 25, across French Broad River, at Hot Springs. Limited picnicking, camping, and swimming.

Rain Mountain.—Two miles west of Carver's Gap at Tennessee State line on N. C. 261. Outstanding views and floral display, hiking, picnicking, camping.

Old Fort.—On U. S. 70, 2 miles west of Old Fort. Picnicking and hiking.

Carolina Hemlocks.—On South Toe River, 7 miles from Micaville via N. C. 80. Picnicking, camping, hiking, and swimming. Individual camp and trailer lots. Campfire circle and nature trail. One of the finest areas, in a cool setting.

Wiseman's View.—One half mile east of N. C. 105 at point 5 miles south of U. S. 221. Outstanding view of Linville Gorge, picnicking and camping.

Curtis Creek.—Between U. S. 70 and Blue Ridge Parkway. Camping, picnicking, fishing and hiking.

Chestnut Knob.—Camping area for hunter use.

Barkhouse.—On N. C. 181, 23 miles from Lenoir. Picnicking.

Mortimer.—Near Edgemont. Picnicking, swimming.

Table Rock.—At end of Table Rock Road, 20 miles from Morganton via N. C. 181. Fine panoramic view, picnicking, hiking, and camping.

South Toe.—Organization camp, 2 miles southwest of N. C. 80 and 15 miles from Marion.

Woodlawn.—On U. S. 221, 6 miles from Marion. Picnicking.

Craggy Gardens.—National Park Service scenic area on Blue Ridge Parkway, 15 miles from Asheville. Picnicking, hiking, information as to resorts, lodging, meals, etc., can be obtained from local Chambers of Commerce.

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Curtis Creek Road from U. S. 70 near Old Fort to N. C. 80 at Busick via Curtis Creek, Big Laurel Gap, and Mount Mitchell game farm.

Pisgah Motor Road from Candler to Wagon Road Gap via Stony Fork picnic area, Mount Pisgah parking area, Pisgah Motor Forest Inn, and Frying Pan Gap campground.

Headwaters Road from U. S. 276 at mouth of Lookingglass Creek to Pink Beds via John Rock and Sliding Rock Falls.

Wilson Creek Road from Brown Mountain Beach to Mortimer.

SCENIC TRAILS

Appalachian Trail from Great Smoky Mountains National Park to U. S. 19W via Max Patch Mountain, Hot Springs, Rich Mountain, and Camp Creek Bald (80 miles). Several overnight lean-to shelters have been constructed along this trail.

Craggy Mountain Trail from Craggy Gardens to Little Cane River Gap via Craggy Pinnacle and Dome, Balsam Gap, and Yeats Knob (18 miles).

Higgins Bald Trail from Busick to Mount Mitchell (5 miles).

Camprock Trail from Loftis Cabin to Mount Mitchell (5 miles).

Mt. Pisgah Trail from Pisgah Parking Area to Mount Pisgah (1½ miles).

Balsam Ridge Trail from Tennessee Bald to Richland Bald (10 miles).

Lookingglass Trail from U. S. 276 to the top of Lookingglass Rock (3 miles).



Communications are received by dispatchers who quickly inform emergency forest fire fighting crews.

Scenic roads:

- U. S. 221 from Marion to Blowing Rock via Linville and Grandfather Mountain.
- U. S. 321 from Blowing Rock to Lenoir.
- U. S. 25 and 70 from Tennessee line to Marshall via Hot Springs.
- U. S. 70 from Black Mountain to Old Fort via Swannanoa Gap of the Blue Ridge, Point Lookout, and Old Fort picnic area.
- N. C. 80 from Micaville to Carden City via Carolina Hemlocks campground, Buck Creek Gap, and Lake Tahoma.
- N. C. 181 from Morganton to Jonas Ridge via Clearwater Beach.
- U. S. 276 from Waynesville to Pisgah Forest and Brevard, via Wagon Road Gap, Pink Beds, Lookingglass Falls, and Davidson River.
- Craggy Gardens Road from Barnardsville to Craggy Gardens picnic area.

